against the promoters' according to *the Penal Code* even without the above circulars, etc.?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—(a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) The question is not intelligible.

(d) The Government Advocate was not consulted. Action can be taken even without the circular.

The registration of *kuri* documents.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether in the registration of a *kuri* document fees are received separately on the amount paid down and on the same amount or bigger amount that the executor has to repay in a series of instalments;

(b) the date from which such double fees used to be levied and the Regulation authorising such levy;

(c) whether they do not consider it a severe hardship on poor persons who are obliged to receive smaller amounts from Church *kuries*, etc., while a much less amount alone has to be expended on ordinary mortgages for receipt of much bigger amounts?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—(a) Yes.

(b) From Dhanu 1099, under the provision in Note 2 to Article 1 of the table of fees of *the Registration Manual.*

(c) No special hardship is likely to be caused here. This is also the practice in British India.

Capital punishment in the State.

266. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state the number of cases in which capital punishment has been awarded in the State in the course of the last 10 years?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—Nil.

The treatment of political prisoners.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any rule, order or provision to the effect that better treatment than what is given to ordinary prisoners should be given to political prisoners;

(b) whether Messrs. Kuroor Neelakandan Nambudiripad and Sebastian were not treated as ordinary prisoners, while they were in gaol; and if they were not so treated, in what all ways they were specially treated?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—(a) The rules on the subject are contained in Chapter XLI of the Jail Rules.

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(b) Yes. They were given whatever treatment they were entitled to under the Rules, as regards simple imprisonment prisoners.

Water-cess for new reclamations.

268. **Mr. A. Eachara Menon**—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(i) the rate of water-cess for new reclamations (double crop lands);

(ii) the rate collected from the British tenants ;

(iii) whether water is given without cess for any in the British territory for taking water along his land to the neighbouring land which pays the cess ;

(iv) if so, what is the extent of the land that pays and the land that does not pay ?

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—(i) Rs. 7½ per acre.

(ii) No water is supplied for new reclamations of lands to British tenants.

(iii) No.

(iv) No answer is necessary in view of the answer to sub division (iii).

New accretion paddy fields in Narakkal and Nayarambalam.

269. **Mr. Poulo Mampilli.**—Will the Government be pleased to state, if it has received a petition from the paddy field-holders of Narakkal and Nayarambalam praying that the assessment on the new accretion paddy fields may be reduced ?

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—No petition seems to have been received.

270. **Mr. Poulo Mampilli.**—Will the Government be pleased to state the nature of the order, if any, passed on the petition ?

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—No answer is necessary in view of the reply to question No. 269 above.

271. **Mr. Poulo Mampilli.**—Will the Government be pleased to state whether the Agricultural Department has done anything to see, if those lands could be made to yield any return? If not, why not ?

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—No The department has had no requisition from any ryot to conduct any experiment on the lands.

272. **Mr. Poulo Mampilli.**—In view of the condition of these lands, will the Government be pleased to order the Agricultural Department to conduct some experiments on a small plot of such land to serve as an object lesson to the people ?

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